2,290 pass CPA exams; St. Louis University student is No. 1. See complete results at www.inquirer.net

BUSINESS / B1
Stocks plunge 4%; peso rallies to 44.115:$1

METRO / A17
Rizal Gov. Ynares gives MMDA until Thursday to find new dump for Metro Manila garbage

SPORTS / A23
Red Sox take AL pennant, advance to World Series

Help country's small businesses: Buy local

Supreme Court rules that a he can't be a she

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Tuesday, October 23, 2007

Erap seeks GMA pardon



ESTRADA: Full, free and unconditional pardon

Appeal of conviction withdrawn; President elated

By Jocelyn R. Uy and Michael Lim Ubac

CITING "THE HIGHEST NATIONAL INTEREST," CONVICTed plunderer and former President Joseph Estrada yesterday asked President Macapagal-Arroyo for "full, free and unconditional pardon" as he withdrew his appeal of the Sandiganbayan's verdict last month.

Makati gov't orders safety inspection of Glorietta





A CANDLE shines on Cesar Rhin Vidaloo, a computer programmer, killed in the Glorietta 2 blast on Friday, together with best friends Jan Ann de Ocampo and Maureen de Leon seen at right in happier times.

That Friday, cell phone seemed to keep ringing forever

By Nancy Carvajal, Julie M. Aurelio and Tonette Orejas
Inquirer Central Luzon

'Kuya' tells Trillanes to put up or shut up



By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.



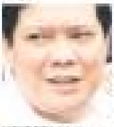
TWO foreigners arrive at the explosion site of Glorietta 2 in Makati City. Sources said at least six members of the FBI, the US Navy SEALs and the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit are helping out in the investigation.

Is Ermita on way out? Palace: He's on a mission

By Michael Lim Ubac

Bulacan gov links GMA ally to bags of money





By Tonette Orejas and Carmela Reyes
Inquirer Central Luzon
and Alcuin Papa

Second FRONT PAGE

'Witch-hunt' vs Muslim groups feared

WHAT'S INSIDE



THINK GLOBAL WARMING

Nograles: Lakas to side with GMA



Fortitude of Catanduanes folk vs calamities hailed

President takes closer look at airport security measures

Fil-Am doc gets life term in jail







Bulacan governor links GMA ally to money bags

Malacañang denies

'What really happened'

Letters of denial

Help country's small businesses: Buy local

Buy in neighborhood

Do good

Cooperative in Mindanao

Corrections




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Stop the Political Noise, Focus on Economic Growth

Certain quarters are capitalizing on a trumped-up incident at Malacañang last October 11 to resurrect their ludicrous call for President Arroyo to step aside halfway through her constitutional term of office.

Their recycled call for a national-leadership change is certainly an absurd one at this point, given that no such incident of alleged impropriety had taken place at the Palace to warrant the President's resignation. If anything, their shrill demand for the Chief Executive to step down for no logical reason at all has only accentuated the farcical nature of their cause and is testament to why their ilk has increasingly been marginalized and cut off from the Filipino majority long smarting from an overdose of divisive politics in our midst.

President Arroyo's resignation is something our nation needs like a hole in the head. We, the officers and members of the League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP), believe that our country needs the President now more than ever to remain at the helm of Government so she can pursue further structural reforms that are necessary to keep our now robust economy on its high growth course.

The outrageous stories about money changing hands during the formal meeting between President Arroyo and LPP officers and members last week have besmirched not only our collective integrity as the country's chief provincial executives but also that of the Chief Executive herself as the paramount leader of our nation.

It is regrettable that the level of distrust and cynicism in our society has plunged to such depths that these fictitious reports have taken a life of their own as gospel truth—and have unjustly smudged us and Palace executives as the collective persona of transactional politics that opposition and certain civil-society leaders claim to plague Government.

We reiterate what our officers have said when news about this Malacañang incident first broke out last week: we did not, as a whole, receive cash gifts from any Palace functionary during or after that Oct. 11 meeting, let alone get any instruction from anybody to oppose a third attempt in the House of Representatives to impeach President Arroyo.

We believe we have been elected to our current local government positions on the strength of our respective constituents' faith in our competence, integrity and independence. We certainly have not betrayed, and do not intend to betray, this electoral mandate by kowtowing to anybody or sacrificing our principles for any monetary incentive.

Our wholehearted support for President Arroyo and her administration is founded on her unwavering commitment to genuine local autonomy, as underlined by, among others, her "super regions" strategy and such budgetary outlays as the Kilos Asenso and Kalayaan funds that will truly empower local government units and spur countryside development. In fact, we were at the Palace on Thursday last week to discuss with the President the progress of projects supportive of the "super regions."

Hence, there is no need for the Chief Executive to offer us any incentive, much less bribe us, in exchange for our continued support for her government and our strident opposition to any leadership shakeup ahead of the 2010 elections.

Moreover, there is no need for the Executive Department to win us over in this new impeachment episode for we are neither members of the House nor the Senate whose votes are needed to impeach or, later, convict the President.

We are hoping that this declaration will finally put this non-issue to rest, and allow not only us elective officials but all other sectors as well to get back to the urgent business at hand, which is to work together with President Arroyo in sustaining and accelerating the growth of our economy.

HON. ERLPE JOHN M. AMANTE
Governor, Agusan del Norte

HON. ERICO B. AUMENTADO
Governor, Bohol

HON. NATALIO BELTRAN III
Governor, Romblon

HON. EUSTAQUIO P. BERSAMIN
Governor, Abra

HON. DOUGLAS CAGAS
Governor, Davao del Sur

HON. JOSE ANTONIO N. CARRION
Governor, Marinduque

HON. TELESFORO F. CASTILLEJOS
Governor, Batanes

HON. AURORA E. CERILLES
Governor, Zamboanga del Sur

HON. LUISA L. CUARESMA
Governor, Nueva Vizcaya

HON. MAXIMO B. DALOG
Governor, Mountain Province

MOHAMMAD KHALID Q. DIMAPORO
Governor, Lanao del Norte

HON. BEN P. EVARDONE
Governor, Eastern Samar

HON. ORLANDO A. FUA JR.
Governor, Siquijor

HON. ENRIQUE T. GARCIA
Governor, Bataan

HON. GWENDOLYN F. GARCIA
Governor, Cebu

HON. SALLY A. LEE
Governor, Sorsogon

HON. EMILIO C. MACIAS II
Governor, Negros Oriental

HON. SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU
Governor, Sultan Kudarat

HON. LORETO LEO S. OCAMPOS
Governor, Misamis Occidental

HON. ARNAN C. PANALIGAN
Governor, Oriental Mindoro

HON. VICENTE T. PIMENTEL, JR.
Governor, Surigao del Sur

HON. MARIA VALENTINA G. PLAZA
Governor, Agusan Del Sur

HON. JESUS N. SACDALAN
Governor, North Cotabato

HON. JOSEPHINE R. SATO
Governor, Occ. Mindoro

HON. DEOGRACIAS VICTOR B. SAVELLANO
Governor, Ilocos Sur

HON. LUIS RAYMUND F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.
Governor, Camarines Sur

HON. GERALDINE E. VILLAROMAN
Governor, Dinagat Island

HON. VICTOR A. YAP
Governor, Tarlac

HON. ROLANDO E. YEBES
Governor, Zamboanga Del Norte

LEAGUE OF PROVINCES OF THE PHILIPPINES

TEACHERS' GROUP'S LAMENT

No training yet for poll duty

WITH BARELY A WEEK TO GO before the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections, the Commission on Elections has yet to conduct the necessary training for the country's 500,000-plus public school teachers who will serve in the polls.

Antonio Tinio, chair of the 15,000-strong Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT), yesterday said "as far as we know, these trainings have yet to be scheduled."

The militant ACT called on both the Comelec and the Department of Education to immediately address the matter.

"The situation is urgent. Comelec and the DepEd must work closely to ensure that teachers are given the proper training in the limited time that's left," said Tinio.

"The legally mandated procedures for the barangay and SK polls are very different from the May 14 national elections. That's why it is crucial that teachers get the proper training," he said.

Tinio noted that "teachers usually experience more harassment and intimidation during barangay elections."

"Since rival candidates and their supporters are usually neighbors and the contest will be decided then and there at the polling centers, teachers are often at the receiving end of harassment by losers. They can pounce on some minor errors committed by the teachers and file charges and delay the proclamation of winners," he said.

Tinio also urged the Arroyo administration to allocate additional funds "to augment the pay of teachers serving in next week's polls."

"Our demand is for teachers to receive the same package of pay allowances, benefits and protection as in the May 14 national elections. Unfortunately, Comelec's budget provides for less," he said. *Jerry E. Esplanada*

RP 4th biggest receiver of funds from overseas workers, says UN

AMONG THE WORLD'S "DEVELOPING countries," the Philippines is the fourth biggest receiver of money from migrant workers in 2006, according to the recent report by the United Nation's International Fund for Agricultural Development.

The report, "Sending money home: Worldwide remittance flows to developing countries," showed that the Philippines received $14.6 billion remittances from overseas Filipino workers last year.

The remittances from OFWs comprise over 13 percent of the country's gross national product, according to the Department of Labor and Employment.

Last June 2006, in time for the school opening, remittances from OFWs helped increase the value of peso after it threatened to fall past P50:$1.

Senate economic affairs committee chair Loren Legarda said in a press release yesterday that the government should "consciously bring down burdensome remittance fees." Legarda said that this is "the single most efficient way to make full economic use of remittance flows."

India ranked first with $24.5 billion, followed by Mexico, $24.4 billion, and China, $21 billion remittances. *Schatzi Quodala, Inquirer Research*

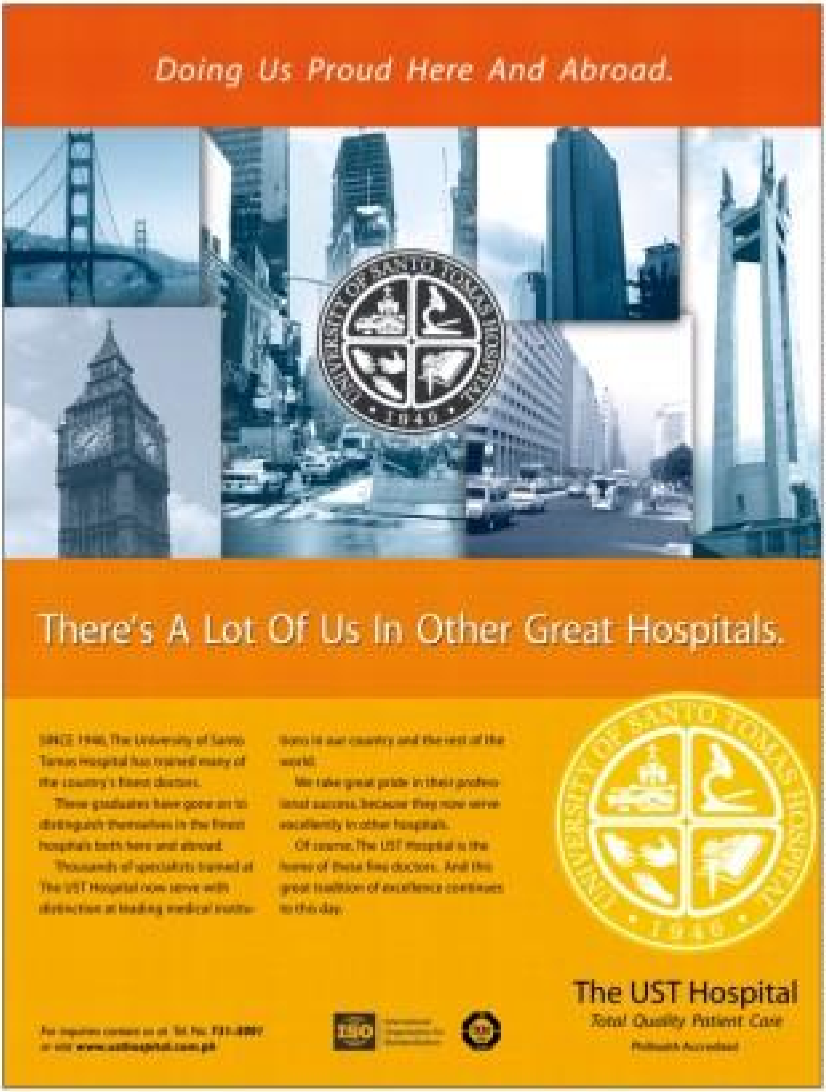
The Daily Gospel

Tuesday, October 23, 2007
29th Week in Ordinary Time
John of Capistrano
1st Reading: Rom 5:12, 15, 17, 19, 20-21
Gospel: Luke 12:35-38

Jesus said to his disciples, "Be ready dressed for service, and keep your lamps lit, like people waiting for their master to return from the wedding, to open to him as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy are those servants whom the master finds wide-awake when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will put on an apron and have them sit at table and he will wait on them. Happy are those servants if he finds them awake when he comes at midnight or daybreak!"

Commentary

[illegible]



Newsmakers

Ex-PBA cager held at airport

A FORMER professional basketball player was arrested Sunday night by airport security personnel for alleged possession of five bullets for a .38 caliber pistol. Rizal Istanislao Victorino, popularly known as Manny Victorino, 48, was prevented from taking his flight to Guam at about 8:30 p.m. at the Naia terminal 1 after the bullets were seen on X-ray in the final screening checkpoint. Airport security personnel said Victorino claimed he did not know that it was illegal to bring live bullets inside the airport. Victorino once played for Crispa, Great Taste, Presto and Pepsi during his days at the Philippine Basketball Association. *Cynthia Balana*

Reyes; 75

CONRADO M. Reyes Sr. of San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija and former Regional Census Officer of Region III based in Pampanga passed away on Oct. 10. He was 75 years old. He was buried on Oct. 16 in San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija. Reyes was also the former Provincial Census Officer of Nueva Ecija. He is survived by his wife and children and grandchildren.

Preventing terror acts

THE CHAIR of the House committee on public order and safety yesterday filed a bill proposing the penalty of life imprisonment to persons found in possession of enough explosives to commit acts of terror. Nueva Ecija Rep. Rodolfo Antonino said there was a need to punish severely the possession of explosives and hazardous materials to prevent incidents such as the explosion that hit Glorietta 2 on Friday.



Erap seeks pardon

TIMELINE: ERAP BLINKS

'Wisdom of lawyers'

'Sharply wounded nation'

SC appeal

Final decision

Different tune

INQUIRER

Opinion

No way out

Editorial



Political viagra

Viewpoint

Juan L. Mercado

Renewals

There's the Rub

Conrado de Quiros

Let's wait for investigation to wind up

POLITICAL TIDBITS



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

Kenneth

YOUNG BLOOD

Mary Clarissa Joy David

Misery as policy

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

Losing trust in Gloria

NEWSSTAND



John Nery

Jpepa is more than WTO

LETTERS

Region 6 DepEd responded ASAP

Senators prodded, probe CARP too

Culture of secrecy trumps accountability

Public officials beyond contempt

Across the NATION

GIs back among Aetas for war games

CAPAS, TARLAC—"Maragul la reap (Their help is big)," said Aeta elder Pedro Gutierrez, referring to the dozen or so American military doctors and other medical personnel who treated his granddaughter, Mona Lisa, for dehydration on Sunday.

Blessings

Construction work



There's no stopping 'jueteng' in Camarines



HO HUM

Gov't vets sent to Samar town to probe carabao deaths

Fish cages return to Batangas after 5 yrs

Obstructions

Iloilo execs endorse coal plants after trip to Taiwan

Cops stop 2 'Army' men from planting evidence in Glorietta

No contamination

Makati gov't orders safety inspection of Glorietta



Maintenance work

U.S., Australian probers

No traces of RDX

Appeal for sobriety

Businessmen jittery over mall blast

Nervousness

Cautious prognosis

That Friday, cell phone seemed to keep ringing forever

Too young to die

Party for Niño

Last shopping for Anthony

Liver crushed

Eerie silence in Porac

'Kuya' tells Trillanes to put up or shut up

Resignation calls premature

Practice restraint

RP has made little progress on political slays probe, says rights group

Is Ermita on way out? Palace: He's on a mission

Long-scheduled trip

Government efforts vs killings

Supreme Court rules that a he can't be a she

Right to happiness

Becoming a woman

Wrong venue

IN THE KNOW

NEWS

CLEANSING CEREMONY



‘Did you receive money?’ letters for local execs

Goal: Prick their conscience

Terrorism won’t stop senators on bribe probe

A plus METRO

MMDA told to look for new dump

Deadline up Thursday; Rizal gov. says trash facility only for province

THE METROPOLITAN MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUthority might soon end up dealing with a full-blown garbage crisis after Rizal Gov. Casimiro Ynares III yesterday said the agency would have to find a new dump for the waste generated by Metro Manila residents starting this Friday.

Manila adds security detail to City Hall; schools hold calamity drills



Strict monitoring of malls, business areas in south Metro

DID YOU KNOW



MetroBriefs

Urban poor hit MMDA

Bamboo seminar set

Military officer dies in Pasig road accident; driver seriously hurt

By Kristine L. Alave



Suspected illegal recruiter could face estafa charge

Waterless QC, Manila during weekend

By Amy R. Remo

BPinoys: Making a mark in and out of the country



Cops warn pranksters about bomb tips

By Kristine L. Alave



ANOTHER CAMPAIGN PERIOD

GMA about to pay a karmic debt?

On Target

Ramon Tulfo





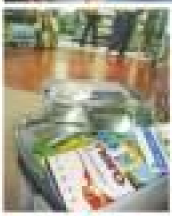






PAPT Heightens Anti-piracy Campaign Against Software Pirates







PAPT targets Internet cafés using unlicensed software

PAPT Hits Businesses Across the Philippines for Use of Pirated Software

Earn up to P1 Million now by reporting software pirates. Go to www.papt.org.ph

The WORLD

China unveils new leadership lineup

BEIJING—CHINA'S RULING COMMUNIST PARTY unveiled a new leadership lineup on Monday, including two men positioned to eventually succeed President Hu Jintao and government head Premier Wen Jiabao.

China's new stars



Li Keqiang, 52



Xi Jinping, 54

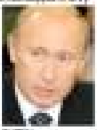


Wind-whipped fires hit Southern California

WorldBriefs

World religious leaders kick off peace summit

Putin tries to end feud in Russian security elite

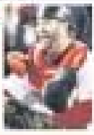


PUTIN

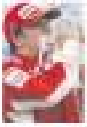
Polish premier routed in record vote

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Red Sox cruise to World Series/A23



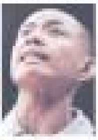
SPORTS



■ Raikkonen snatches Formula One crown/A24

Guiao sacked for one game

Uytengsu bewails rugged play



YENG Guiao



Fil-Am ace Norwood gets going

Lady Stags, Lady Eagles dispute lead

Pacman Int'l 9-Ball tomorrow

UAAP shows early might in Unigames

By Cedelf P. Tupas, Inquirer Visayas

BACOLOD CITY—DE LA SALLE LAUNCHED ITS BID FOR a ninth straight women's football crown in style by blanking University of the Philippines, 6-0, yesterday in the 13th Philippine University Games here.



Gymnasts give Manila POF crown

A GOLD MEDAL blitz in gymnastics dramatically swung the race for overall honors in favor of Manila at the close of the Philippine Olympic Festival-National Capital Region qualifying leg yesterday at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex.

RP jins capture 12 golds

THE PHILIPPINES BAGGED 12 GOLD medals, including four in the senior division.

Ting, Salgados rule Shell chess

MARVIN TING CLINCHED THE JUNIORS CROWN

Mayor Peewee Trinidad writes

CLEAN LIVING

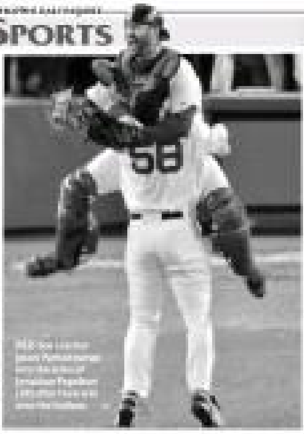


Manolo R. Iñigo

I WOULD LIKE TO APOLOGIZE TO THE readers for failing to acknowledge their letters on time.

Red Sox cruise to World Series

Down Indians for AL pennant



Nalbandian rips Federer

Park, Brodett nail match play top seedings



PARK: Solid round

Ayala Alabang golfers eye grand finals berth today

SPORTSWATCH

75 matches up as LGBA derby gets going

Clean-Up stagiest kicks off Nov. 1 at Roligon

Warm welcome for world rugby champs

[illegible] AFP

SPORTS

Raikkonen snatches Formula One crown

SAO PAULO, BRAZIL—Kimi Raikkonen is known as "The Iceman," [illegible] the Brazilian Grand Prix and [illegible] the Formula One title [illegible] years.

[illegible]



Kimi Raikkonen celebrates after winding the F1 overall title.

[illegible] AP

McLaren Mercedes-Benz plans appeal

[illegible] AFP



BUSINESS



Stocks plunge 4%; peso rallies to 44.115:$1

CURRENCIES

IN THIS ISSUE

Regional equity markets track Wall St.'s slide

STOCK PRICES PLUNGED 3.98 PERCENT YESTERDAY, with investors cashing out after Wall Street's heavy losses at the end of last week and amid local security concerns, dealers said.

Gov't rejects all bids for treasury bills



'BIBLE' FOR DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES

Energy regulator set to amend open access rules



By Abigail L. Ho





Ready Atlas

BREAKTIME



Conrado R. Banal III

Gov't will honor commitment to Bangko Sentral, says Teves

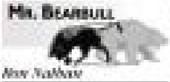
P40-B capital contribution to be paid over 3 to 5 years



Lopez group plans IPO for SkyCable, ABS-CBN Global

Wall Street takes a dive

MR. BEARBULL



Stocks plunge 4%; peso rallies to 44.115:$1

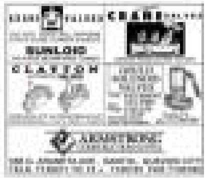
Gov't rejects ...

Currencies

Philippine Stock Exchange

Manila Ocean Park seen attracting ₱1B in investments

Aquarium to open on Dec. 15, mall and hotel to follow

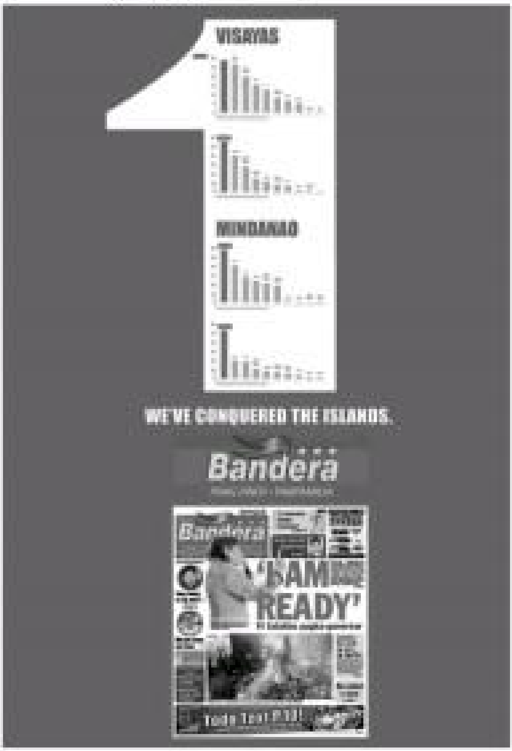




Napocor urged to disclose total debts

Financial literacy program launched

RLC to start high-end leisure project in Cebu



LIFESTYLE



Lifestyle approach to weight loss

A LIFESTYLE APPROACH TO weight loss is the simplest and smartest way to endure the process and experience long-term results.

Moving whenever possible

Fun but challenging



ARCHITECT Pablito Padilla, Lita Lilia, Remedios Padilla, Empress for the Day Doña Alés Valdes vda. de Reynoso, Lolong Padilla, Therese Coronel Santos and Lala Graciano



BENEDICT Reynoso, Jay Arcadio, Reynina Laws, Cecille Reynoso Aniana, Bayan Pierce, Tim Laws and Trish Laws

A grand dame's 90th birthday



VICKY Tuason, Pia Tesita and Maryann Ojeda Loarez



TITO and Maryann Reynoso, Ana Dizadro, Paulista and Henry Hagedorn. Seated: Quito Moros



J. EMILIO Reynoso, Melanie Alvarez, Anton Alvarez, Regie Reynoso, Paul and Regina Tan

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by Alex Van Hagen using Kodak EasyShare



SHE'S A DISTINGUISHED, LOW-PROFILE woman of substance who, at the glorious age of 90, remembers the names and birthdays of everyone of her nine children, their better halves, her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The horsy set's favorite stable, Manila Polo Club, was abloom for the birthday bash of none other than the adorable Alés Valdes vda. de Reynoso, palangga.

The Valdes and Reynoso clans turned out en masse to greet the well-loved Lola Alés, whose interesting life story was forever captured in the book "The Reynoso Flair," a fitting tribute to an entrepreneur with the Midas touch.

The book was presented on her 88th birthday by her children, who benefited from her keen insight and business know-how.

Her daughters-in-law, power ladies Maryann Ricafe-Reynoso and Ophie Casiaño-Reynoso, transformed the Turf Room into a gorgeous wonderland of flowers, pastel-colored buntings, flowing ceiling overhangs and magical candles.

The superb menu served at different hot and cold stations was the choice of New York-based genius chef and instructor Loanie Reynoso, natch, who saw to it that everything was simply perfect.

Palangga Cecille Reynoso Aniana was overall coordinator of the grand affair, no confusion.

Well-applauded Polynesian and belly-dancing numbers were presented by grand daughter-in-law [illegible], fresh from a victory at the [illegible] School of [illegible], Italy, where she bested all [illegible] competitors from all over the world.

Real fun began with the "dancing ladies," neighbors of the celebrant's daughter Ria and her hubby Tim Laws in Ayala Alabang.

Even 93-year-old architect Pablito Padilla, a colleague of the late Reynoso patriarch José and musician Ruben [illegible], her Mercy Tuason joined in the fun, dancing with Alés's cute great grandkids.

The Reynoso sons Litao, Tito and Benedict, grandsons and great grandsons took turns dancing a nostalgic waltz with the celebrant.

Present were close pals of her children who shared the famous meals at the Reynoso table during their high-school and college days, and even now.

More touching for Lola Alés was the lobster-and-steak dinner at the Highland's China Palace hosted by her long-time business partner in [illegible] Plaza, young tycoon [illegible], mega-busy president of [illegible], and his super eye-catching wife, adorable [illegible], for both Reynosos and my familia a few days before the Polo club event, dahlings. Hans was out of town on the night of the Polo bash.

At the end of the magical evening, a book written by the celebrant and her daughter Ester Reynoso-Santos, "Recipes of Lola Alés," was distributed to the guests as party giveaway.

"This new book has all our family's favorite recipes, translated from Tagalog to reach a wider readership," explained Cecille. It is distributed exclusively by Anvil and National Bookstore.

Here's to more years, we hope to share with the adorable Alés Valdes vda. de Reynoso.

Cheers, my palangga.

Tosca is launched

The ever popular Dusit Hotel Nikko recently introduced Tosca, its new Italian restaurant, at the mezzanine of the hotel, palangga.

Violinist [illegible] put the guests in the right mood by playing Italian music. The hotel's ever popular general manager [illegible] gave the welcome remarks. Resident manager Frank Grossmann gave a background on Tosca.

Abruzzo Loddo, the resort's Italian chef, introduced tenor Juan Alberto Gandiosi, who sang "E Lucevan le Stelle," a song from the opera "Tosca," accompanied by pianist Ginijay Aniana. Both are members of the Philippine Opera Company, no less, palangga.

A trivia game was held for the invitees, palangga. The four with the nearest answers to the questions won gift certificates for a stay at Dusit, six months complimentary use of [illegible] fitness studio, wine dinner for two, and business set lunch for two at Tosca. Not bad, huh?

With rain pouring outside, it was great to linger, sipping superb wines and champagne from Wine Depot while nibbling on samples of Tosca's yummy dishes, dahlings.

Viva la Tosca!

Christmas bazaar

The civic-minded personalities of the Friends for Cultural Concerns of the Philippines (FCCP) is holding the Pre-Christmas Bazaar, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Dec. 16, at Hotel InterContinental, Makati.

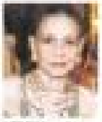
These concerned citizens work hard to promote "awareness of our cultural heritage and the development of talented young Filipino artists," explained FCCP's super driving force, Mimi Valerio, director of the fund-raising project.

As in the past, proceeds will go to talented young musical instrumentalists and vocalists, outreach cultural programs in public schools in and out of Metro Manila, scholarship grants, and to the National Museum Foundation for the training of art teachers and museum guides, among others, palangga.

Other members of FCCP are Myrna [illegible], Dillie Bento, Cika Lozano, Marie Bonilla, [illegible], Bessi Lazaro and Mars Lobbos.

Check out the bazaar, palangga. You'll find almost everything you'll need and want for yourself or for Christmas gifts.

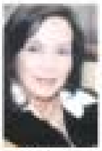
Do call Angie at the FCCP office at [illegible] or [illegible].



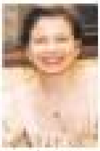
MERCY Arcadio Tuason



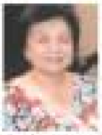
BONNIE Tecip



LUCIA Tesoluro



LULU Perez Reino Delgado



DR. OPHELIA Adajan



RIA Reynoso Laws



YVONNE Yuchengco and Malou Dy Buncio



MEGA banker Chito Sobrepeña of Metrobank, Ambassador Asia Orbitpuanda of Thailand, Dusit Hotel Nikko's popular GM Hans Hast and chic-attired socialite Anna Sobrepeña



THOMAS Grossman, DHN's resident manager Frank Grossmann, Sara McLeod and Nathalie Grossman



CINDY Esquivel and Catherine Carcia of American Chamber of Commerce and DHN's cybersmart assistant PR manager Liezl Ventura



DHN's banquet sales manager Camille Dizon, Asian Tiger's Rosalesia McCoy Javier and DHN's Paula Bautista



DHN's Dalinda Reyes, Canadian Chamber's Grace Santana, Heidi del Pilar and DHN's Christine Monteverde



FCCP Bazaar Committee. Seated: Daisy Contreras, co-chair; Helen Ong, member; Mimi Valerio, director; [illegible], chair; Lucy Ilaño, chair; and Marie Lozano, chair. Standing: [illegible] Villaroman, FCCP president; Nikki Valerio; and Noel Gonzales, co-chair



DR. ERIC Tayag of the Philippine Foundation for Vaccination

Worthwhile investment

From page C1

[illegible]



Breast cancer vigilance during pregnancy

[illegible]



Nelia Resurreccion is determined to survive breast cancer with her baby.

[illegible]

Lifestyle approach to weight loss

From page C1

[illegible]

Adapt to your style

[illegible]

Balance

[illegible]

Worthwhile national investment

Experts stress that disease prevention through vaccination is worth the price

By Pras Kanigkan

VACCINATION AS ADULT? This may not seem like a practical idea in a developing country where there are other pressing needs to provide for. Times are difficult and, to most families, every hard-earned peso counts.



Five medical experts at the Vaccines' "Writers" Workshop in Bangkok, Thailand, say immunization against infectious diseases is worth the expense.

The conference, sponsored by the global pharmaceutical company Wyeth, aimed to promote anew the idea that disease prevention could help families—even entire nations—live better and healthier.

Pediatrician Nitin Shah, former president of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics, presented data and current information showing how vaccines had contributed significantly to controlling, even eradicating, diseases.

"Vaccination is the most important and cost-effective public health measure ever produced for any type of dreaded disease," said Shah, an expert on infectious disease prevention and treatment.

In India, he said, vaccines reduced the number of reported cases of diseases like tetanus or lockjaw from 23,356 in 1990 to 2,587 last year; pertussis or whooping cough, from 112,416 in 1990 to 23,165 last year; and diphtheria, from 8,425 in 1990 to 2,472 last year.

New vaccine

Shah discussed the recently developed pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV7) designed to prevent invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD), an acute bacterial infection caused by Streptococcus pneumoniae or pneumococcus.

Serious diseases caused by pneumococcus include pneumonia (inflammation of the lungs), meningitis (inflammation of meninges, fluid-filled membranes that cover the brain and spinal chord), and bacteremia (bacteria in the blood).

Other common but less serious infections include otitis media (middle-ear infection), sinusitis and bronchitis.

Most vulnerable are children below 2 years of age and adults above 65.

In a 2006 report, the World Health Organization (WHO) said up to one million children under 5 died each year from pneumococcal diseases. Over 90 percent of deaths occurred in underserved populations in developing countries.

WHO recommends that countries that register over 50,000 deaths annually among children less than 5 years old should prioritize the introduction of PCV7 in their immunization programs.

Shah said, in places where immunization for pneumococcal disease had been implemented, not only had IPD been virtually eliminated in young babies but the so-called herd effect was produced, protecting even those who had not been vaccinated like parents and the elderly population.

Not in EPI

In the Philippines, although Wyeth has made PCV7 available, the vaccine is still not included in the Department of Health's Expanded Program for Immunization.

Dr. Eric Tayag of the Philippine Foundation for Vaccination, meeting with Philippine media representatives here, said, "Pagpapabakuna should be regarded as an investment. It should not be thought of as an [additional expense], or that it would only protect the immunized person."

He said people who were cautious or uncertain about the need to immunize against IPD were "those who have been financially battered by having somebody in the household develop an infectious disease."

IPD may not be as dramatic an issue as, say, meningococcemia, but the disease could be as deadly.

Like meningo, it is transmitted through droplets from a sneeze.

Records available show one of three Filipinos with IPD die, a mortality rate of about 30 percent.

Though IPD was treatable, Tayag said it could become resistant to antibiotics, like several other infections.

"We haven't gone that way yet, but we probably will—just like most Asian countries..." he said.

"IPD may become difficult to

CONTINUED ON C[illegible]

LIFESTYLE







INSIDE OUT
Gary Quirino

The vanity checklist

Love is...

Know that...

Vanity class 101

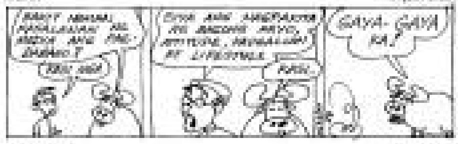
To have and to hold

A illustrated novel by CARLO J. CAPARAS

Art: ARNEL A. AVETRIA



A-LIPIN



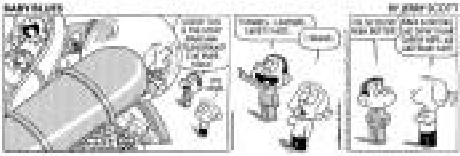
PUGAD BABOY



GARFIELD

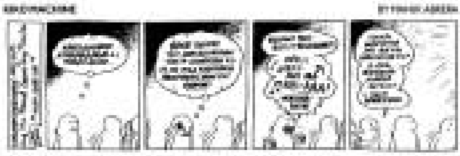


BABY BLUES



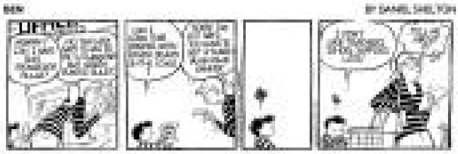




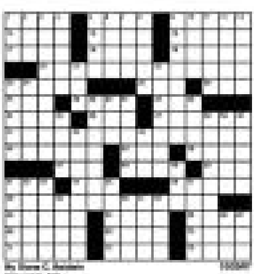


BEN

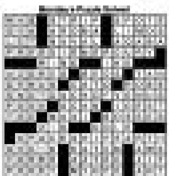
By DANIEL SHELTON



DAILY CROSSWORD



Monday's Puzzle Solved



HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

	7			9			6	
3	5						1	4
		8	1	5	6	2		
		4				7		
2		3				4		6
		9				3		
		5	3	1	8	6		
6	4						3	9
	3			4			5	

Difficulty Level ★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

INNER AWARENESS
Jaime Licauco

Women's intuition may be fact

THE POPULAR BELIEF that women are more intuitive than men, and children more intuitive than adults, seems to have some biological and anatomical basis.

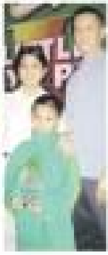
Seat of telepathy

Evolution

Outstanding athletes honored









Mother's 'breast friend' in a tea bag



A different kind of health club



10 ways to lose *bilbil*



Top UK retail chain cares for both moms and babes



PUSHCHAIR with extra padding and space

Mothercare offers premium items that are totally different from the ones currently in the market



NURSING pillow for breastfeeding moms



TRENDY shoes for toddlers

Text by Yvagie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Jon Gabo/Punzalan

MOTHERCARE, a top United Kingdom retail chain for mothers and toddlers, has just opened two outlets in Metro Manila.

The shop carries a wide range of products, from maternity clothes and nursing equipment to cribs and strollers, as well as toys, accessories, feeding utensils and bedding.

"Mothercare is a global brand dedicated to meet the needs of all mothers and children," says [illegible] Mella, president of [illegible], Mothercare's franchisee in the Philippines.

Mella assures clients that all Mothercare products have passed the British Safety Standards. Each item is tested for safety before the store receives it.

The brand, which has been around for more than 40 years, has 241 stores in the United Kingdom and 391 outlets around the world.

Quality merchandise

Mothers and moms-to-be will enjoy the clean, bright and neatly-zoned shop.

The store makes it easy for pregnant women to remain stylish. Trousers and skirts are designed to accommodate an expanding belly from early to full-term pregnancy. They do not only flatter the women but also keep her comfortable.

The line includes tunics that adapt to a woman's new shape, tops and dresses that are wrap-style, side-ruched empire-line or sleeveless.

Colorful swimwear for pregnant women and a wide selection of nursing bras are also available.

"Mothercare understands how important it is to wear a well-fitting maternity bra during and after pregnancy," Mella says. "The company works closely with midwives and pregnant women in designing new bras."

Mothercare stores' employees are specially trained to help clients throughout their pregnancy. They can assist the changing shapes and sizes to ensure women get perfectly fitting bras to meet their bodies' needs at every stage of the pregnancy.

"A woman's body is undergoing dramatic changes so it's crucial to be re-measured every six to eight weeks, or whenever the bra feels uncomfortable," Mella says.

Support bras are designed with supportive fabric, thicker straps, extra soft elastic, broader sides and back and a deeper center front.

Nursing bras, essential for breastfeeding moms, consist of drop-cups, extra soft elastic, easier fastening, and wider sides, back and straps.

Mothercare also has maternity support cushions and pillows for the abdomen, breastfeeding pillows, disposable breast pads, maternity towels and bed mats, among other things.

One side of the shop showcases a gorgeous range of baby clothes and essentials, like sleepsuits, wrap-over vests, cardigans, mittens, socks, blankets in shawls and bibs in soft pinks, blues and neutrals.

For children up to eight years old, there is an impressive collection of bright-colored tees, babies dresses, rugby shirts with printed patches, and other chic casuals.

Boys and girls clothes also include embroidered trousers, jackets, leggings in plain or printed fabric, girls' ballet tops, ripped belted turned-up jeans and hooded zip-through tops.

A huge shoe rack displays different sizes and kinds of shoes for boys and girls and babies.

Nursery and travel needs

Mothercare is recognized for its nursery equipment. It has Moses baskets, cribs, cots, cot beds and travel cots. The sturdy cribs come in dark wood or white wash.

There are also anti-fungus and anti-bacteria-treated mattresses and beddings.

Other baby essentials available include feeding bottles, bottle sterilizers, bottle and food coolers, utensils, baby's toiletries and potties.

Also on display is an assortment of durable high chairs, strollers/pushchairs, and car seats.

Light-weight pushchairs are ideal for use in public transport or travel, while three-wheeler strollers are perfect for where parents want to take their baby for a walk.

Mothercare staff will help parents install correctly to their vehicles infant carrier car seats.

"We are happy to help clients check the seat fits a child properly in a car," Mella says. "In choosing the right car seat, it's the weight and the age that matters. If a child is above or below the specified weight range for the car seat, he/she may not get adequate protection in the event of an accident."

Mothercare stores are located on the third floor of Shangri-La Mall in Mandaluyong City and the TriNoma Mall in North Avenue, Q.C.



TELEVISION host Christine Bersola-Babao and daughter Antonia check out some electronic toys.



STYLISH car seat with side-impact protection and head cushion



STURDY, white-wash crib with cozy beddings and colorful playmat



CLOTHES for boys and girls

ENTERTAINMENT



MICHAEL V | MIRIAM Quiambao | DINGDONG Dantes

Celebs recount scariest experiences

DOLLY WOOD
Dolly Anne Carvajal



Celebs recount…

From page E1



STARSTRUCK. The columnist poses with [illegible]

[illegible]

Debut album

[illegible]

New show

[illegible]

Hosted by [illegible]

[illegible]

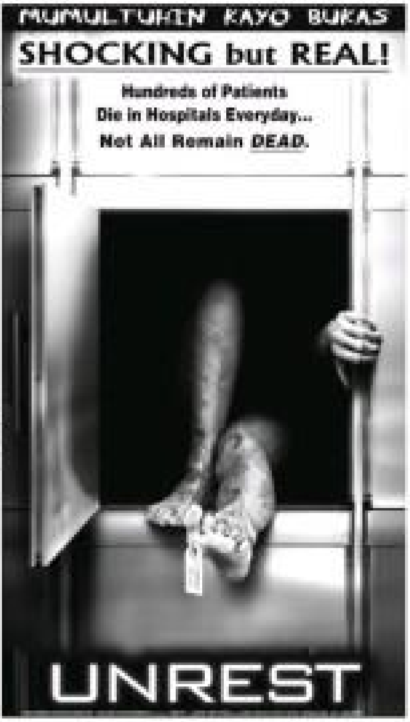


NOW SHOWING





OCTOBER 17 to 23



AT THE CINEMAS

[illegible]

Cinema	Films
GLORIETTA 1	1 Highlander: The Source; 2 The Seeker: The Dark is Rising; 3 Knocked Up; 4 Apat Dapat Dapat Apat
GLORIETTA 4	1 Knocked Up; 2 Mr. Woodcock; 3 The Seeker: The Dark is Rising; 4 I Now Pronounce You Chuck & Larry; 5 Resident Evil: Extinction; 6 Stardust; 7 Perfume: The Story of a Murderer
GREENBELT 1	1 Stardust; 2 The Seeker: The Dark is Rising
GREENBELT 3	1 The Seeker: The Dark is Rising; 2 Stardust; 3 Perfume: The Story of a Murderer; 4 Mr. Woodcock; 5 Knocked Up
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 Stardust; 2 The Seeker: The Dark is Rising; 3 Knocked Up; 4 Mr. Woodcock; 5 Apat Dapat Dapat Apat
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 The Seeker: The Dark is Rising; 2 Knocked Up; 3 Stardust; 4 I Know Who Killed Me
MARKET! MARKET!	1 Apat Dapat Dapat Apat; 2 Stardust; 3 Knocked Up; 4 Highlander: The Source; 5 The Seeker: The Dark is Rising
TRINOMA	1 Apat Dapat Dapat Apat; 2 Highlander / Resident Evil 3; 3 Stardust; 4 Mr. Woodcock; 5 The 11th Hour; 6 Knocked Up; 7 The Seeker: The Dark is Rising

AT THE MALLS

Mall	Event
Glorietta	[illegible]
Greenbelt	[illegible]
Alabang Town Center	[illegible]
Ayala Center Cebu	[illegible]
Market! Market!	[illegible]
Cinderella	[illegible]
Ayala Museum	[illegible]
TriNoma	[illegible]





SM Cinema

movietime SHOWTIME

Your life as a movie



METRO MANILA

IMAX



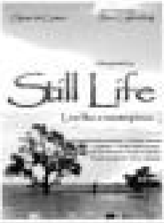
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA'S MOVIE GUIDE

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

GALLERIA

1 STARDUST - THX
2 KNOCKED UP
3 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
4 HIGHLANDER
5 Reserved for VICTORY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
6 Reserved for VICTORY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
7 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
8 indieBee: TUKSO / STILL LIFE
9 RESIDENT EVIL 3
10 MR. WOODCOCK

NOW SHOWING





OCTOBER 17 to 23

ERMITA

1 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
2 STARDUST
3 KNOCKED UP
4 MR WOODCOCK
5 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
6 HIGHLANDER
7 RESIDENT EVIL 3

METRO EAST

1 KNOCKED UP
2 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
3 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT
4 HIGHLANDER
5 MR. WOODCOCK
6 STARDUST
7 RESIDENT EVIL 3
8 KUNG FU FIGHTER

NOVALICHES

1 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
2 KNOCKED UP
3 STARDUST
4 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT

PIONEER

1 MR. WOODCOCK
2 HIGHLANDER
3 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
4 KNOCKED UP

STA. ROSA

1 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
2 STARDUST
3 RESIDENT EVIL 3
4 KNOCKED UP
5 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT

LIPA

1 NO RESERVATIONS
2 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT
3 WEDDING DAZE
4 THE HOST

DASMARIÑAS

1 KUNG FU FIGHTER
2 KNOCKED UP
3 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
4 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT

IMUS

1 KUNG FU FIGHTER
2 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
3 APAT APAT DAPAT APAT
4 KNOCKED UP

ANGELES

1 RESIDENT EVIL 3
2 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT
3 DECEMBER BOYS / THE SEEKER
4 KNOCKED UP

TARLAC

1 I'VE FALLEN FOR YOU
2 DON'T LOOK BACK
3 SHOOT 'EM UP

STARMILLS

1 KNOCKED UP
2 STARDUST
3 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT
4 THE SEEKER: Dark is Rising
5 DECEMBER BOYS
6 RESIDENT EVIL 3

BACOLOD

1 RESIDENT EVIL 3
2 NO RESERVATIONS
3 STARDUST
4 APAT DAPAT DAPAT APAT
5 THE HOST
6 indieBee: TUKSO

ILOILO

1 DAYWATCH
2 APAT DAPAT, DAPAT APAT
3 NO RESERVATIONS
4 THE HOST
5 WEDDING DAZE
6 I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU CHUCK & LARRY

showing at Robinsons Movieworld OCTOBER 17 to 23



Comedy isn't dead in RP—but it may be in Mandalay

MANDALAY—AS ONE OF MYANMAR'S most beloved comedy acts, the "Moustache Brothers" have made a living by poking jokes every night with their biting parodies of the ruling junta.

But their luck ran out when the military clamped down on anti-government protests that posed the biggest challenge to the regime in nearly two decades.

Security forces on Sept. 25 swept into the ramshackle home where they perform in Mandalay and arrested Par Par Lay—the main comedian of the trio, also known as Moustache Brother Number One.

"They said nothing," his younger brother and fellow performer Lu Maw told AFP of the raid on their home.

"My brother is a jail bird," added Lu Maw, who likes to speak in well-worn English idioms.

The arrest wasn't entirely a surprise.

The group had been banned from performing for the last ten years, but they persevered, catering mainly to tourists. Par Par Lay mocked the ban by parading under a "Most Wanted" sign during the show every night.

He has been imprisoned twice before—first for six months in 1990, and then again in 1996 when he and Moustache Brother Number Three, Lu Zaw, were locked up for nearly six years.

Their offence then was telling anti-government jokes at a rally held at Aung San Suu Kyi's house to mark independence day in January 1996. AFP